

REMARKS

Claims 34-58 are pending.

Claims 34-58 are presented to support a request for an interference with Köster et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,928,906.

Claims 34-41 correspond to claims 33-38, 41 and 46, respectively, of Köster et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,928,906.

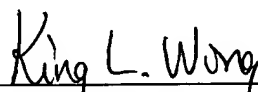
Claims 42-49 correspond to claims 17-22, 25 and 30, respectively, of Köster et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,928,906.

Claims 50-58 correspond to claims 1, 3-8, 13, and 16, respectively, of Köster et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,928,906 (herein after referred to as US '906).

The support for the limitations recited in claims 34-58 in the parent application, 09/357,166, and in the priority document is discussed in a Preliminary Amendment filed on July 26, 2000 during the prosecution of the parent application. A certified English translation of the priority document was filed in the grandparent application, 08/991,184. Applicants request that the Patent Office grant a priority date of December 20, 1996 for the invention according to claims 34-58.

Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-2300.

Respectfully submitted,



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FOOTNOTES